



SANTA BARBARA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

[HTTP://WWW.SBBMWRIDERS.ORG](http://www.sbbmwriders.org)

BMW MOA CLUB #165

SPEAKING TRUTH TO POWER...136 HP, THAT IS!

Volume 23, Issue 2

February 2023

Member News and Rides

The January meeting, held at the Creekside Restaurant, had about 12 attendees.

The weather in January definitely put a hold on riding for a bit. In addition, many roads are closed. Steve relayed his story about riding up Gibraltar Road as the big storm started. He managed to get up the road before the major damage occurred on the road. See Pages 5-6 for more on road closures.

Steve proposed a campout at Carrizo Plain for January, at the KCL Campground. It was scheduled for January 28-29. We will be able to hear about it at our February meeting.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Member News and Rides
- 2 January Topic: What is the #1 Reason You Currently Ride? And Has This Changed from Your Original Reason?
- 2 SB BMW Riders Calendar
- 3 Upcoming Events
- 3 BMW Recalls R 1250 GS and R 1250 RTP
- 4 Special White Elephant Gift Exchange – A Short Gift Story!
- 5-6 Road Closures, as of February 7, 2023
- 6 Super Bloom 2023?



*Cachuma's back to 99%!
Chuck and Enzo overlook Cachuma.
Photo by Enzo.*

January Topic: What is the #1 Reason You Currently Ride? And Has This Changed from Your Original Reason?

Steve posed this question, and we got many stories about how members got started in motorcycling, as well as how they are riding currently.

John T. started riding originally for transportation, but now rides for relaxation and pleasure.

Wayne said that he first started riding because he was interested in wrenching and to ride interesting roads, but he found the social aspect was a big, and pleasant, surprise.

Marilyn didn't ride until she was 50. She watched a motorcycle crew at an AIDS ride and liked that, so she learned to ride. She likes the motorcycle for travel and touring.

Harvey started riding in his late 20's to early 30's. His early interest was riding canyons, but now he enjoys seeing the landscape and photography. He finds that early Sunday mornings are best for photography, and lack of traffic on the roads.

Cy purchased his first bike and had it for weeks before his parents found out about it. But once his dad found out, he paid for half of it! Cy traveled around Europe and spent a month in England riding around on a Triumph 500. That bike got stolen in the US. Cy got back into riding a bit later. Now the riding for

SB BMW Riders Calendar

- ❖ Monday, February 20: Monthly meeting at Creekside Restaurant & Bar, 4444 Hollister Ave., Santa Barbara. Meeting starts at 6 p.m. Get there at 5:30 if you want to order dinner.
- ❖ Monday, March 20: Monthly meeting at Creekside Restaurant & Bar, 4444 Hollister Ave., Santa Barbara. Meeting starts at 6 p.m. Get there at 5:30 if you want to order dinner.
- ❖ Any other activities or rides scheduled, let me know! djkrohn1@gmail.com

him is about the place and path more than the destination.

Steve started riding for the thrills and challenge. He got into racing, but now he enjoys the sensations of things going by, and the feeling of going into curves.

Chris started on a moped, then got a Honda CB400 Hawk. She went on many travels, and loves curvy roads. Chris said that she felt clumsy on her feet, and she loved the feeling of not being clumsy while on her motorcycle.

Cody likes the sensation of riding, and he also enjoys camping and traveling. For him, the more that goes wrong, the more fun it is!

Veronica's dad would not allow her to have a car, so she got a motorcycle instead! She rides two-up with Michael now, and they like to travel and visit new areas.

BMW Recalls R 1250 GS and R 1250 RTP

BMW of North America is recalling all US-delivered 2019 to 2023 BMW R 1250 GS and R 1250 RTP motorcycles produced between specific dates.

The safety recall involves the gearbox input shaft. In certain engine operating and riding conditions, i.e., an abrupt difference between the engine speed and the rotational speed of the final drive component, an overload of the gearbox input shaft could occur. This could result in damage to, or breakage of, the gearbox input shaft, and possibly result in a blocked rear wheel.

BMW says of the safety risk: "If the gearbox input shaft became damaged and/or broke, or if the rear wheel became blocked, this could increase the risk of a crash."

Specific motorcycles affected:

- All Model Year 2019 – 2023 BMW R 1250 GS motorcycles produced from 09/19/2018 through 12/14/2022. (6,812 motorcycles)
- All Model Year 2019 – 2023 BMW R 1250 GS Adventure motorcycles produced from 10/10/2018 through 12/14/2022 (9,401 motorcycles)
- All Model Year 2019 – 2023 BMW R 1250 RTP motorcycles produced from 07/19/2018 through 12/02/2022. (2,276 motorcycles)

More information and links: [R1250 GS and RTP Recall](#)

Upcoming Events

- March 9-12: Death Valley Rendezvous, annual Airhead Rally at Furnace Creek, Death Valley, CA. [Death Valley Rendezvous Airhead Rally](#)
- March 18-19: BMW NorCal Annual Death Valley campout, Furnace Creek, Death Valley, CA. [BMW NorCal Annual Death Valley Camping](#)
- March 22-26, 2023: ADV Rider Death Valley Noobs Rally, Panamint Springs. This is the 16th year anniversary! [Death Valley Noobs Rally 2023](#)
- April 21-23: Campout at the Song Dog Ranch, Cuyama Valley, CA. Join BMW NorCal for this campout. [Song Dog](#)
- May 25-29: 49er Rally, Mariposa, CA. More details to come later: [49er Rally 2023](#)

SUPPORT OUR SPONSOR



SportCycle Pacific

About Us
Showroom
Parts
Contact
Racing
Home

SportCycle Pacific, Santa Barbara
Your European Motorcycle Connection

627 N. Salsipuedes, near Ortega Park
805-966-6508
Now closed on Sunday and Monday
Open Tuesday- Friday, 8 a.m. to 6p.m.
Saturday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Special Holiday White Elephant Gift Exchange – A Short Gift Story! By Anonymous

Dave Hamilton provided a gift for the White Elephant Gift exchange, but wasn't able to attend the club Holiday party. The party was great fun and we had great food, as well as the aforementioned White Elephant Gift Exchange, with a variety of cool gifts!

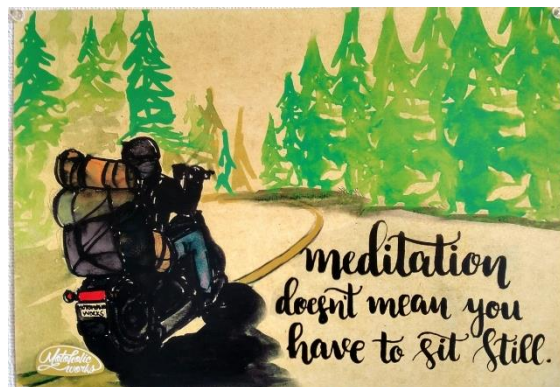
Participants each had a number for the gift exchange. The gift table was getting a bit sparse at the point Dave's number came up since it was at the higher end. A surprisingly heavy gift box was selected and opened, to find a photo of a motorcycle lift jack, along with a beautiful red brick and some blocks of wood. The gift opener assumed that the brick and blocks of wood were to be used as a handyman's motorcycle jack and that the gift was a marvelous joke, since most if not all of us have used blocks of wood, rocks, bricks, whatever, in a pinch to jack up a bike.

The gift was boxed up again and in a few days was delivered to Dave, who opened it and was duly impressed with its utility as well as the humor behind it.

The gift delivery person later learned, at a very important motorcycle meeting over coffee, that Dave had been contacted by Wayne, who explained that the gift was actually more than a brick and blocks of wood, that there was an actual motorcycle lift jack for a motorcycle behind the gift and wanted to know if Dave wanted the jack! Since Dave is already well jacked up, he declined Wayne's offer, hence, Wayne's generous offer in the January newsletter.

Many thanks to Diane and Wayne for making their home available for the party.

(Note from Wayne and Diane: Thanks to everyone, especially Chuck, Joan, Michael and Veronica, for helping out and making it a fun party!)



Road Closures, as of February 7, 2023

Of which, there are many!

Highway 1:

The closure of Highway 1 from the southern approach in San Luis Obispo County continues to be set at the elephant seal vista area, four miles north of San Simeon. That location was selected as it provides an opportunity for large vehicles to turn around. **Note:** Post Mile (PM) is the distance from the border of Monterey County (Ragged Point), starting from the south end.

- Crews have continued to make good progress on slide removal and drainage restoration efforts at Polar Star, one mile south of Ragged Point in San Luis Obispo County, following a major slide which took place on January 4.
- Highway 1 at Polar Star is scheduled to reopen to a resupply convoy for local residents during the day on Friday, February 10.
- **Highway 1 from Polar Star to south of the Mill Creek Slide is scheduled to reopen to the public by the evening of Sunday, February 12, weather permitting.**

Once Highway 1 at Polar Star reopens to the public on Sunday, February 12, travelers will be able to continue north until just before the Mill Creek Slide at PM 18. As work progresses there in the coming weeks, Caltrans will be looking for opportunities to allow convoys through at Mill Creek.

- Mill Creek: The estimated time for the re-opening of Highway 1 at Mill Creek is now 6 weeks.
- Paul's Slide PM 22: New assessments are providing a picture of the scale of the movement of the slope at PM 22. Drone imagery suggests that this winter's storms created a large landslide within an even larger magnitude slide. The estimated time for the reopening of Highway 1 through Paul's Slide is unknown at this time. Updates will be provided as more information becomes available.
- Highway 1 North of Paul's Slide: Highway 1 is scheduled to reopen between the north gate at Paul's Slide at PM 22 and the current closure at Lime Creek at PM 32 on Friday, February. 3. Signs at southbound Highway 1 at Lime Creek will alert travelers that the road is closed except for travel by locals.

South Coast mountains:

- Gibraltar Road has been closed due 500' North of the City of Santa Barbara - *Emergency Access Only*.
- Stagecoach from Paradise to HWY 154.

- East Camino Cielo from HWY 154 to Gibraltar Road.

Santa Ynez/Buellton:

- Alisal Road - *Emergency Access Only to agency approximately mile post 3.0 due to cattle fencing. Nojoqui Falls Park is not accessible.*
- North Refugio Road 4.3 miles south of HWY 246 – **IMPASSABLE.**
- Foxen Canyon Road at Mile Post 2.8 - Single Lane, Alternating Traffic.
- Figueroa Mountain Rd is closed at 6.5 Mile Post north from HWY 154 - *Closed to through traffic.*
- Happy Canyon Road – Closed until March 14, 2023.

Gaviota and Jalama:

- Jalama Beach Road: Open as of late January. The Jalama Beach Store is also open.
- Refugio Road from HWY 101 to West Camino Cielo - *Emergency Access Only.*
- Refugio Road from West Camino Cielo to Mile Post 4.3 which is 4.3 miles south of HWY 246 – **IMPASSABLE.**

More information and updates as they occur: [SB County Road Closures](#) and [Caltrans Road Conditions](#)



Super Bloom 2023?

At our January meeting, there was a brief discussion of the possibility of a Super Bloom of wildflowers this spring. The heavy rains in January could result in one, but it also requires a sufficient seed bank, the right amount of moisture at the right times, and enough warmth to germinate the seeds. So, it's not a guarantee that we will have one this year. The last super bloom in California was 2019. They tend to occur about every 10 years or so.

In the desert regions, the bloom can start in mid-February and can last until June or even mid-July, depending on the area. Peak season is usually March to April.

If we do have one, some of the best places to see them are Anza-Borrego, Death Valley, Joshua Tree, Lake Elsinore, Antelope Valley, and Carrizo Plain. And of course, there are hills among our own backcountry that get covered with poppies and lupines in the spring.

Where to see wildflowers: [Super Bloom locations](#)